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Hiroshi Inooka et al. USSN 10/594,773 – Filing Date: September 29, 2006 Page 2

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1. (currently amended) A[n]n-agent method for improving the blood stability of an mammalian endogenous ligandgand GLP-1 produced in a mammalmammalian body, which comprises administering to the mammal an effective amount of an antibody that has an affinity to the endogenous ligand GLP-1 but does not neutralize the same substantially, without administration of GLP-1 from outside the body.
- 2 (currently amended) The agent method of claim 1, wherein the improved blood stability of the endogenous ligand <u>GLP-1</u> results in the enhancement of receptor activity-regulatory action thereof the activity of a <u>GLP-1</u> receptor.
- 3. (previously presented) The agent method of claim 1, wherein the neutralizing activity of the antibody is about 80% or less.
- 4. (currently amended) The agent method of claim 1, wherein the blood concentration of the endogenous ligand GLP-1 becomes about twice or more compared to the case where the antibody is not administered.
- 5. (currently amended) The agent method of claim 1, wherein the blood half-life of the complex of the endogenous ligand <u>GLP-1</u> and the antibody is about twice or more as that of the endogenous ligand <u>GLP-1</u> alone.
 - 6 13. (canceled) The agent method of claim 1, wherein the blood half-life of the

BOS2 733213.1

Hiroshi Inooka et al. USSN 10/594,773 – Filing Date: September 29, 2006 Page 3

free endogenous ligand is about one week or less.

- 14. (currently amended) The agent-method of claim 1, which is for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of a <u>metabolic</u> disease in which an increased blood concentration and/or a prolonged blood half-life of the endogenous ligand are/is effective for the prophylaxis and/or treatment thereof.
- 15. (currently amended) The agent-method of claim 14, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of metabolic disease, bone and joint disease, cardiovascular disease, cranial nerve disease, infectious disease, cancer, blood disorder, urelogic disease, infertility/erectile dysfunction, deficient-growth and immunodeficiency is diabetes.

16 -17. (canceled)